

REMARKS

Claims 1-6 are pending, each having been amended to improve their idiomatic English without narrowing their scope. The abstract has been carefully reviewed and amended as to the matters of form pointed out in the Office Action.

Claims 1 and 4 are the only independent claims.

Claims 4-6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as indefinite. Applicant traverses. The Examiner took the position that the presence of the term “it” renders claim 4 vague and indefinite. This is not true. It is perfectly clear what “it” means when it is used in the phrase “when it has been determined.” This is not a case of the term “it” being used to substitute for an element, as the Examiner seems to be implying. It is being used in a phrase that has a meaning known to all.

In fact, the term “it” as used in claim 4 is used a perfectly valid English construct that is completely clear and definite. Although not necessary, to expedite prosecution, claim 4 has been amended to read, in relevant part: “when it is determined at said determining step” This language tracks the corresponding portion of claim 1, which was not objected to. It is believed that the rejection under Section 112, second paragraph, has been obviated, and its withdrawal is therefore requested.

Claims 1-6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,915,001 (Uppaluru). Applicant traverses and submits that the independent claims are patentable over Uppaluru for at least the following reasons.

Claim 1 is directed to a contents inspecting system for inspecting contents accumulated in a server and consisting of at least HTML (hypertext markup language) data by means of a terminal apparatus. The contents inspecting system comprises: a server having storage means for storing: (a) the contents, the contents having associated therewith voice

data for explaining an outline of the contents, and (b) an exclusive tag that indicates that the voice data is present; and a terminal apparatus having: determination means for determining whether or not the exclusive tag in the contents read from the server exists, means for downloading voice data corresponding to the exclusive tag from the server when it is determined by the determination means that the exclusive tag exists, and; means for regenerating and outputting the voice data in response to the exclusive tag during regeneration of the contents.

Among the features of claim 1 not taught or suggested in Uppaluru are storage means in a server for storing: (a) the contents, the contents having associated therewith voice data for explaining an outline of the contents, and (b) an exclusive tag that indicates that the voice data is present at the server.

By virtue of these features, for example, the contents of a Web page can include a special indicator, the exclusive tag, that the browser can recognize. The exclusive tag indicates to the browser that the server has available for downloading voice data that explains the contents, for example of the Web page. This allows a user of the browser to be able to more easily understand the contents of the Web page, that has been stored on the server, without the need, for example, for a text outline or explanation of the contents, although the invention is not limited to this embodiment.

On the other hand, Uppaluru relates to a system for accessing voice files, for example for use in an interactive voice response system or voice mail system. In the Office Action, the Examiner took the position that the Col. 8, lines 11-13 and Col. 5, lines 42-45 show the voice data and the exclusive tag. This is not correct.

Attributes, relied upon by the Examiner as allegedly corresponding to the recited voice data for explaining an outline of said contents, do not meet this feature of claim 1. Attributes relate to voice tags in Uppaluru and, for example, indicate a type of voice

information to be presented. It is not voice information itself, as in the present invention, and certainly not voice information for explaining an outline of the contents, for example, of a Web page.

To make a prima facie case of anticipation requires that each feature of the claim be found in a single reference, combined exactly as in the claim. For at least the above-noted reasons, no prima facie case has been established.

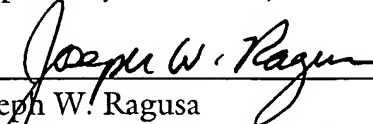
Moreover, the Examiner appeared to take the position that Uppaluru's voice tags correspond to the recited exclusive tag. This is not correct. The exclusive tag indicates that voice data exists that corresponds to the contents. In contrast, the voice tags of Uppaluru do nothing of the sort. The voice tags are a way of presenting voice information in the voice Web system of Uppaluru. There is no teaching that they indicate that voice data exists that corresponds to contents, e.g., of a Web page. For at least this additional reason, no prima facie case of anticipation has been established.

The other claims in this application are each dependent from one or another of the independent claims discussed above and are therefore believed patentable for the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue of the present application. In view of the above amendment, applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

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